THE KOLAR DISTRICT BOARD RAILWAY.

NOTICE.

No. 12—*D. B. R., dated* 25*th October* 1911.

In inviting attention to the Dewan's Address to the Dasara Representative Assembly held at Mysore on the 6th day of October 1911, *anent* the construction of the Railway between Bowringpet and Kolar and sanction of Government guarantee of interest at 4 per cent per annum on the Debenture Loan of Three Lakhs of rupees to be raised for the purpose, it is hereby notified that arrangements are being made to start operations on or about the 1st November 1911, and that whereas the Debentures have been oversubscribed to the extent of nearly a lakh of rupees, it is found impossible to allot them fully to all the applicants but that arrangements will be made to allot as much as possible in the order of payments and that therefore those who are still desirous of securing the same are requested to deposit their amounts in the nearest Treasuries in the district promptly, before the 15th November 1911, to avoid disappointments.

C. SRIKANTESWARA AIYAR,
President, District Board.

SANITARY.

The following memorandum approved by the Government of His Highness the Maharaja of Mysore, on the subject of rat destruction, is published for general information :—

Official efforts directed towards extirpating the rats in towns by rewarding rat catchers having proved unavailing, the Government of His Highness the Maharaja of Mysore are pleased to direct that rewards for rat killing shall cease forthwith. In promulgating this order Government desire it to be clearly understood that they fully recognise the connection between the existence of rats and the prevalence of plague. But as the payment of rewards to rat catchers has not been found to rid any town or locality of even a small proportion of the rats and as this state of affairs can clearly have no appreciable influence on plague, it is considered a mere waste of energy and public funds to continue the practice. At the same time the fact remains that houses which are kept free from rats are also for the most part free from plague. No official effort, however, can rid individual residences of rats. This can only be done by the efforts of the house-holders themselves, and if the official procedure has had no other effect it must at least have left every house-holder fully instructed as to the various means of ridding a house of rats. House-holders are accordingly earnestly enjoined to put forth all their energies and intelligence in the endeavour to rid their premises of rats, and they are assured that success in this direction will mean safety to their families from plague. While thus withdrawing sanction for the expenditure of public funds on rat destruction, it is not the intention of the Government to interfere with individual or combined effort on the part of the house-holders of any town to rid their boundaries of the rat tribe in any way that may suggest itself to them.

2. In regard to public buildings all Heads of Departments are strictly enjoined to spare no effort in keeping their offices free from rats. They should themselves frequently inspect their offices. It should be the duty of the manager of every office to inspect every room and every corner of it at least once a week. He should see that rubbish, old papers, etc., are not allowed to accumulate, that a clear space of at least 8 inches is allowed between boxes and almirahs and walls, and that papers and other materials are allowed to collect beneath them. All almirahs should be fitted with oblique tops so that rubbish cannot lie on them.

3. All floors should be rat proof, that is, they should either be laid with tiles or slabs or brick on edges on a foundation of concrete or made of concrete skinned over with $\frac{3}{4}$th" cement. Great care should be exercised in laying slabs of any kind to see that they are solidly bedded, that is, that no rat runs are left between adjoining slabs. They should never be laid on sand or mere earth, but always on concrete.

4. If there is one element in house management more than another which counts for rat expulsion, it is "tidiness" and this accordingly is enjoined on all. "Tidiness" does not mean decorations or tinsel with which it is often confounded—it means "a place for everything and everything in its own place."

P. S. ACHYUTA RAO,
Officiating Sanitary Commissioner.